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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/923,280	08/06/2001	John J. Lazzaroni	P6145.62004.	9036

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EXAMINER
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FAULK, DEVONA E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2615

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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 09/923,280	Applicant(s) LAZZERONI ET AL.	
	Examiner Devona E. Faulk	Art Unit 2615	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 March 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1m3-10,13-17,19-21,24-28,30-32,35 and 36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11,12,18,22,23,29,33,34 and 37 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 October 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Arguments*

1. The applicant has amended the independent claims.
2. Applicant's arguments, filed 3/31/2007, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1,3-10,13-17,19-21,24-28,30-32,35 and 36 under 102(b) and 103(a) , with, respect to the newly recited claim language, have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Adams.
3. Claim 2 is cancelled.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. **Claims 1,3-8,10,14-16,20,21,25-27,31,32,36** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishigaki et al. (US 4,437,510) in view of Adams (US 6,594,366).
6. Claims 1,20 and 31 share common features.  
Regarding claims 1 and 20, Ishigaki discloses a multi-accessory vehicle audio system (Figures 1 and 2) comprising:

a plurality of vehicle audio accessories including a music source (12,11 Figure 1);  
and

an audio switching device (14, Figure 1) comprising:

an input section adapted to receive a plurality of signals from the plurality of  
signals form the plurality of vehicle audio accessories and to transmit the plurality of  
audio signals (terminals 21-23, Figure 2),

a switching section interconnected interconnected with the input section (Figures  
1 and 2);

a controller comprising an instruction set and interconnected with said input  
section and with said switching section and adapted to receive the plurality of audio  
signals from the input section and to produce control signals based upon said  
instruction set (input signal detectors 27-29 and memory read on controller, Figure 2;  
column 3, line 64-column 4, line 20);

wherein said switching section is adapted to receive the plurality of audio signals  
from the input section, to receive the control signals produced by the controller, and to  
produce an output audio signal (Figure 2);

an output section interconnected with said switching section (pre-amp 15, main  
amp 16 and speaker 17 read on output section, Figure 1).

I shigaki fails to disclose that one of vehicle accessories is at least one device  
selected from the group of a cellular telephone, a radar detection device, and a  
geographic designation system.

Adams discloses a multi-accessory vehicle audio system where one of the accessories is a cellular phone (cellular telephone 200, figure 3; column 3, lines 16-18).

It would have been obvious to modify Ishigaki to include a mobile phone as one of the vehicle accessories in order to add more versatility to the multi-accessory audio system.

The method claim 31 is implicit in the functionality of the system. Claim 31 is rejected with Ishigaki and Adams as applied above to claims 1 and 20.

All elements of claims 3-5,7,8,10,14-17,21,25-28,32 and 36 are comprehended by the rejection of claims 1,20 and 31 (See Ishigaki and Adams as applied above; Adams discloses switching between two vehicle accessories, a FM radio and cellular phone depending upon whether a headset (101) comprising a microphone (110) is installed or inserted (see abstract).

Regarding claim 6, the examiner takes official notice that a headset can include two microphones. It would have been obvious to modify Ishigaki as modified to include two microphones to further add versatility to the multi-accessory audio system.

7. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishigaki et al. (US 4,437,510) in view of Adams (US 6,594,366) in further view of DeLine ((US 6,420,975).

Regarding claim 9, Ishigaki as modified does not disclose that the vehicle audio accessories comprise a radar detection system. DeLine discloses an interior rearview mirror sound processing system comprising a radar detection system which can be incorporated into the audio system (column 30, lines 2-6). Since it was well known as

evidenced by DeLine to have a radar detection system in the audio system of a vehicle, it would have been obvious to include such a system in the automatic selection system of Ishigaki for the purpose of providing a radar detection signals to a driver.

8. Claims 13,24 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishigaki et al. (US 4,437,510) in view of Adams (US 6,594,366) in further view of Eggers ((US 5,910,996).

Regarding claims 13,24 and 35, Ishigaki does not disclose signal-leveling circuitry for leveling the audio signals with respect to one another. Eggers discloses a leveling circuit in switching circuit 41 for source signals A and B through the use of foreground program volume controller 15 and background program volume controller 16 (column 3, line 54-column 5, line 63). The advantage of such a circuit was to prioritize the audio signals and make sure the most important audio source is heard over any other audio source, as taught in column 3 lines 17-53. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include the leveling circuitry of Eggers in the invention of Ishigaki as modified for the purpose of prioritizing the signals.

#### **Allowable Subject Matter**

8. Claims 11, 12, 18, 22, 23, 29, 33, 34 and 37 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Conclusion***

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Devona E. Faulk whose telephone number is 571-272-7515. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am - 5 pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivian Chin can be reached on 571-272-7848. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

DEF



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